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APPLICATION NO. 5	FILING DATE 10/01/97	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR BARRACLOUGH	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 11611.88US01
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EXAMINER
RAMAKRISHNAIAH, M

ART UNIT 2743	PAPER NUMBER 6
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DATE MAILED: 01/21/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
08/941,975

Applicant(s)
Keith Barraclough et al.

Examiner
Melur Ramakrishnaiah

Group Art Unit
2743

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Oct 1, 1997

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 6

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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Specification

1. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

The specification is objected to under 35 U.S.C 112, first paragraph, as failing to provide an enabling disclosure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 12-14, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claim 12 recites an internal camera, there is no mention of this in specification.

Claim 14 recites "using the videocommunicator...without controlling the digital still camera". The specification does not explain as to how it is done.

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Drawings

3. The subject matter of this application admits of illustration by a drawing to facilitate understanding of the invention. Applicant is required to furnish a drawing under 37 CFR 1.81. No new matter may be introduced in the required drawing.

NOTE: claim 12 recites internal camera and external camera, there is no drawing to illustrate this.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

5. Claims 1-5, 7-13, are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102 (e) as being anticipated by Kamihara (JP 9-149333).

Regarding claims 1, 7, 12, Kamihara discloses television receiver with arrangement and method comprising: providing a video communicator constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) having a video signal input port at 9 , a video signal encoding circuit 10, and a video signal output port at 9, using a digital still camera 1 to generate video input signals to the video input port of the video communicator, the video output port (at 3) of the video communicator capable of communicatively coupling to a communication channel 3 for providing video conferencing, set-

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top box constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) having a first video input port at 9 and a video output port at 9, first and second telephone ports at (3, 16), the set-top box configured and arranged to output video signals via video output port, output local video data signals via the second telephone port 3 and input remote video signals via second telephone port at 3, responsive to control signals at the first telephone port at 16, a camera coupled to the video input port at 4, and configured and arranged to output video signals representative of stored images of scenes (in memory 8) captured by the camera, a telephone in 17 coupled to the telephone port at 16 and configured and arranged to receive user control inputs and, responsive thereto, provide control signals to the set-top box, a monitor 18 coupled to the video output port to receive the video signals and display images represented by the video signals (fig. 1, page 6 paragraph 2-page 7 paragraph 3, page 14 paragraph 1); a set-top box constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) having first and second input ports at (9, 11), an output at 11, and an internal video camera 1, the set-top box configured and arranged to output display signals via the output port responsive to control signals at the input port at 16, an external video camera 2 coupled to the first input port of the set-top box, configured and arranged to output video signals, a control 16 coupled to the second input port and configured and arranged to receive user control inputs and, responsive thereto, provide control signals to the set-top box, and a display 18 coupled to the output port of the set top box to receive the display signals (figs. 1-2, page 8 paragraph 1-page 17).

Regarding claims 2-5, Kamihara further shows the following: using the video communicator constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) to transmit audio and video signals over the

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communication channel 3, digital still camera 1 to provide video signals representing a live target area along with a split screen as shown in fig. 2, representing a stored stilled image, using output port of the video communicator to provide video signals for a display, using the other output port to output video data representing images received from the digital still camera along with split screen (fig. 2) representation of video images received over the communication channel (figs. 1-2, page 6 paragraph 2-page 7 paragraph 3).

Regarding claims 8-11, 13, Kamihara further shows the following: set-top box constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) having a second video input port, a video camera 1 coupled to the second video input port at 11, a monitor 18 having a screen viewing area and set-top box being responsive to control signals to split the screen to simultaneously display a stored image, plurality of stored images and images represented by the local video data signals as well as images represented by the remote video data signals as shown in fig. 2, display 16 has a screen viewing area and the set-top box constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) is responsive to control signals to split the screen to simultaneously display video information from the internal video camera 1 and information from the external video camera 2 (figs 1-2, page 11 paragraph 2, page 14 paragraph 1).

6. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C 102 (e) as being anticipated by Yoshikazu et al. (US PAT. 5,568,185).

Regarding claim 6, Yoshikazu discloses audio communication band image transceiver comprising: means (132,134, 122) (fig. 5) for encoding and decoding images, and a digital still

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camera 48 (fig. 2) having an output port providing digital information representing a target area representing a target area to the encoding and decoding means.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamihara in view of Guichard et al. (US PAT. 5,341,167 hereinafter Guichard).

Regarding claim 14, Kamihara shows the following: providing a video communicator constituted by elements (6-16) (fig. 1) having a video signal input port at 9, a video signal encoding circuit 10 and a video signal output port at 15, using a digital still camera 1 to generate video input signals to video input port of the video communicator, the video output port of the video communicator capable of communicatively coupling to a communication channel 3 for providing videoconferencing, and using video communicator for controllably alerting a display of the video input signals without controlling the digital still camera (figs.1-2, page 15 paragraph 1).

Kamihara differs from the claimed invention by not teaching pan, tilt, zoom functions to alert the image display.

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However, Guichrd discloses visual and sound communication system with remote control means which teaches pan, tilt, zoom functions to alert the image display (fig. 1 col. 3 lines 15-24).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Kamihara's system to provide for pan, tilt, zoom functions to alert the image display as this would give the control to manipulate the image display to the best advantage.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melur Ramakrishnaiah whose telephone number is (703) 305-1461. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7 AM to 4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz, can be reached on (703) 305-4708. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-9508.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

10. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

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Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 305-9508 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).


CURTIS A. KUNTZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700